



NEWS RELEASE

City Manager's Office

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For Immediate Release

Monday, August 28, 2017

Lake Jackson, Texas

**City of Lake Jackson
Tropical Storm Harvey/Brazos River Flood
Weather Update
08/28/17 - 8pm**

Tropical Storm Harvey is moving offshore just to our west and going briefly out to sea before turning northeast and making a second landfall near High Island.

We are getting some rain this evening and could get a couple of inches or more tonight. Our focus has turned to the Brazos River Flood. The river will likely leave its banks north of the Harris Reservoir. This overflow will flow into Oyster Creek and the upper Bastrop Bayou watershed and ultimately through our city. We will monitor the creek and bayou closely.

To help citizens understand our drainage system, those homes south of Oyster Creek Drive drain mostly in ditches south to the Flag Lake channel then to the Velasco Drainage District pump station where it is pumped into the Brazos River.

Oyster Creek meanders from northwest Lake Jackson through those areas north of Oyster Creek Drive past the college and into Clute/Richwood. This area is drained to the creek through a series of ditches with drainage structures at the outfall to the creek to prevent backflow into the city during periods when the creek is high.

The northern most and northeast portions of Lake Jackson drain to the Bastrop Bayou. These include the Northwood Subdivision and those areas in northeast Lake Jackson served by the old Brazos Canal.

We have placed pumps at the various drainage structures/flood gates to help pump rainwater into the creek when these structures/flood gates are closed by high water in the creek.

Also, to dispel a regular rumor, there is no connection from Oyster Creek to the Bastrop Bayou in Northeast Lake Jackson. The north and northeast side of Lake Jackson is part the Bastrop Bayou watershed.

Now to the current situation –

We have called a voluntary evacuation for Northwood Subdivision located northeast of the intersection of SH288 and FM2004. We expect the bayou to rise and flood streets in this subdivision. At this time, we do not expect any houses to take on water. Northwood residents who do not evacuate need to be prepared to be isolated in their home for a week or more. **Northwood is the ONLY subdivision in Lake Jackson with a voluntary evacuation order.** Despite what Channel 2/KPRC news has reported, there is NOT a voluntary nor mandatory evacuation order for the City of Lake Jackson. Again, only Northwood Subdivision has a voluntary evacuation called.

The creek and bayou will continue to rise throughout the week. It is our hope the creek will contain the forecast flow. In the event water gets out of the creek, it will enter our street system – which has substantial storage capacity. We do not expect any houses to take on water.

We will know much more as the week progresses. Stay tuned.